



DISCUSSION GUIDE

These questions are designed to help groups discuss this weekend's sermon while building relationships with each other and applying God's Word to our lives.

Week of October 5, 2025

GETTING STARTED

- Brandon talked about our “global identity crisis,” not knowing who we are. Where do you see this playing out most clearly—in culture or in your own life?
- Can you think of a time when you tried to “fix” your inner restlessness with effort, productivity, or performance? What was the outcome?

DIGGING INTO SCRIPTURE

Read Romans 8:1–17 aloud. Pause for 30 seconds of silence before discussing.

- Paul says there is now no condemnation for those in Christ. What does that mean to you personally? What could it mean to others (your neighbors, spouse, colleagues, etc...)?
- What does it look like to live “according to the flesh” vs. “according to the Spirit” (vv. 5–8)? How do you see these mindsets show up in your daily life?
- Paul contrasts slavery and sonship in verses 14–15. What does it mean to be “adopted” by God? How might that reshape our view of ourselves?
- In verse 16, Paul says the Spirit “testifies” that we are God’s children. How has God reminded you of your identity?



HONEST REFLECTION

Brandon said: “The Spirit doesn’t name you by what you do, suffer, or fail at – the Spirit names you by who you belong to.”

- How does that challenge or comfort you?
- Where in your life do you tend to drift toward a flesh-driven identity?
- When you think of the phrase “Abba, Father,” what feelings or associations come up? How does Jesus using that word in His darkest moment (Gethsemane) reframe it?
- What difference would it make if you lived today with deep confidence in your identity as God’s child?

PRAYER FOCUS

- Ask the Spirit: “What part of my life have I been trying to live without You?”
- Pray, “Come, Holy Spirit” — not asking Him to arrive, but to awaken you to His presence.
- Ask God to make your group aware of His love, alive to His voice, and aligned with His peace.

Next week: Read Acts 1:8 & Acts 2:1–13 in preparation of Week 3 of our series! Amy Ng, Director of Discipleship & Community, will be preaching her first sermon at Moraga Valley!